GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2507
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2016
Aerial Accidents in IAF
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aerial or in-flight accidents in the IAF involving Cheetah, Chetak Helicopters and MIG-21 fighters during the last three years and the number of air force personnel lost their lives during each of accidents, accident-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any representation to put on hold the operations involving Cheetah, Chetak Helicopters and MIG-21 fighters, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to phase out these vintage helicopters and aircrafts in view of their involvement in a number of accidents, if so, the details thereof

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) There were no aerial or in-flight accidents involving Cheetah and Chetak helicopters of Indian Air Force (IAF) during the last three years (2012-13, 2013-14 & 2014-15) and the current year 2015-16 (upto 08.03.2016). The details of accidents involving MiG-21 aircraft of IAF indicating loss of lives of air force personnel, accident-wise, during the said period is given in Annexure.

(b) & (c): A representation from wives of Army Officers was earlier received for replacement of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters. However, phasing out of aircraft including helicopters and their replacement depends upon the national security / strategic objectives and operational requirements of the defence forces and is reviewed by the Government from time to time. This is a continuous process.
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